

by Deva Hardeep Singh | Dharma Seeds Yoga Press© | 23 July 2023 |

Is yoga rooted in the tree of life?

Yes, the concept of the Tree of Life is deeply rooted in yoga philosophy. The Tree of Life is a symbol of the interconnectedness of all things in the universe. It is often depicted as a tree with its roots in the earth and its branches reaching up to the

heavens. The roots represent the physical world, while the branches represent the spiritual world. The trunk of the tree represents the human being, who is the bridge between the two worlds.

In yoga, the Tree of Life is often used as a metaphor for the practice of yoga itself.

The roots of the tree represent the physical poses (asanas) that we practice,
while the branches represent the mental and spiritual benefits that we derive
from yoga. The trunk of the tree represents the breath (pranayama), which is
the essential life force that connects us to all of creation.

One of the most famous yoga poses, Vrksasana (Tree Pose), is a physical representation of the Tree of Life. In this pose, we stand on one leg with the other leg extended out to the side. Our arms are raised overhead in a gesture of surrender. This pose requires us to find balance and stability, both physically and mentally. It also teaches us to connect with the earth below us and the sky above us.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol of the interconnectedness of all things. It is a reminder that we are all part of something greater than ourselves. Yoga is a practice that can help us to connect with this larger reality and to live our lives in a more balanced and harmonious way.

Here are some other ways in which the Tree of Life is represented in yoga:

- **The chakras**, or energy centers of the body, are often depicted as lotus flowers. The lotus flower is a symbol of the Tree of Life because it grows out of the mud and yet blooms into a beautiful flower. This symbolizes the journey of the soul from the material world to the spiritual world.
- **The mudra**, or hand gestures, that are used in yoga are also often symbolic of the Tree of Life. For example, the Anjali Mudra, which is made by bringing the palms together in front of the chest, is a symbol of union and connection.

• **The mantras**, or sacred sounds, that are chanted in yoga are also often symbolic of the Tree of Life. For example, the mantra "Om" is a symbol of the breath and the connection between the individual and the universe.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that can help us to understand the deeper meaning of yoga. It is a reminder that we are all part of something greater than ourselves and that we can find balance and harmony in our lives through the practice of yoga.



The Tree of Life is a symbol that has been used in many different cultures and spiritual traditions throughout history. It is often depicted as a tree with its roots

in the earth and its branches reaching up to the heavens. The roots represent the physical world, while the branches represent the spiritual world. The trunk of the tree represents the human being, who is the bridge between the two worlds.

The esoteric meaning of the Tree of Life is that it represents the interconnectedness of all things in the universe. The tree is seen as a living organism that contains all of the knowledge and wisdom of the universe. The roots of the tree represent the primal forces of creation, while the branches represent the different levels of consciousness. The trunk of the tree represents the individual soul, which is on a journey of spiritual evolution.

The Tree of Life is often depicted with ten spheres, or sephirot, that are arranged in a specific pattern. These sephirot represent the different aspects of the human psyche and the universe. The sephirot are often associated with different Hebrew letters, planets, and gemstones.

The first sephirah, Kether, is the Crown. It represents the ultimate source of all being. **The second sephirah, Chokmah, is Wisdom**. It represents the creative force of the universe. **The third sephirah, Binah, is Understanding**. It represents the power of discernment.

The fourth sephirah, Chesed, is Mercy. It represents the divine compassion. The fifth sephirah, Geburah, is Strength. It represents the divine power. The sixth sephirah, Tiphareth, is Beauty. It represents the divine harmony.

The seventh sephirah, Netzach, is Victory. It represents the divine will. The eighth sephirah, Hod, is Glory. It represents the divine radiance. The ninth sephirah, Yesod, is Foundation. It represents the divine support.

The tenth sephirah, Malkuth, is Kingdom. It represents the divine manifestation.

The Tree of Life is a complex and multi-layered symbol that can be interpreted in many different ways. It is a powerful tool for understanding the nature of reality

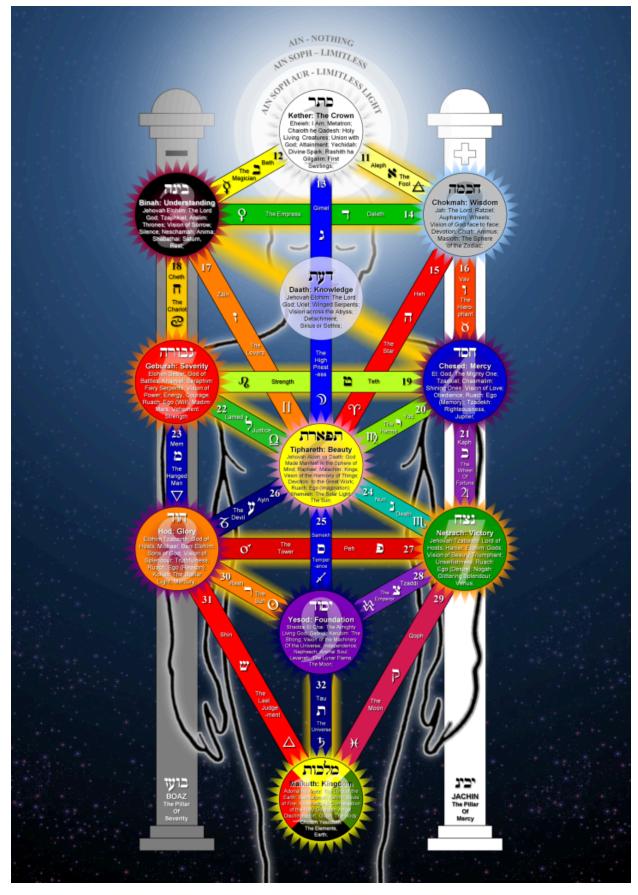
and our place in the universe.

Here are some of the esoteric meanings of the Tree of Life:

- The Tree of Life is a symbol of the evolution of consciousness. The sephirot represent the different stages of our spiritual development.
- The Tree of Life is a map of the human psyche. The sephirot represent the different aspects of our personality and our spiritual potential.
- The Tree of Life is a symbol of the interconnectedness of all things. The sephirot represent the different ways in which we are all connected to each other and to the universe.
- The Tree of Life is a symbol of the divine. The sephirot represent the different aspects of the divine nature.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that can be used to gain insights into the nature of reality and our place in the universe. It is a tool that can be used for personal growth and spiritual development.

If you are interested in learning more about the esoteric meaning of the Tree of Life, there are many resources available. You can find books, articles, and websites that discuss the symbolism of the Tree of Life in different spiritual traditions. You can also find teachers and workshops that can help you to explore the Tree of Life in a more personal way.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tree_of_Life_2009_large.png

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that can be used to understand the 8 limbs of yoga. The 8 limbs are a set of guidelines for living a balanced and harmonious life. They can be seen as the steps on a journey of spiritual evolution.

The Tree of Life can be used to represent the different aspects of the 8 limbs. For example, the roots of the tree can represent the yamas and niyamas, which are the ethical and moral principles of yoga. The trunk of the tree can represent asana, which is the physical practice of yoga. The branches of the tree can represent pranayama, pratyahara, dharana, dhyana, and samadhi, which are the more subtle aspects of yoga practice.

The Tree of Life can also be used to represent the different stages of our spiritual development. The roots of the tree represent the beginning of our journey, when we are first learning about yoga and its principles. The trunk of the tree represents the middle of our journey, when we are practicing yoga regularly and beginning to experience its benefits. The branches of the tree represent the end of our journey, when we have achieved a state of union with the divine.

The Tree of Life is a reminder that the 8 limbs of yoga are not just a set of physical exercises. They are also a path to spiritual enlightenment. By practicing yoga, we can connect with our inner selves and with the divine. We can also learn to live in a more balanced and harmonious way.

Here is a more specific look at how the 8 limbs of yoga can be related to the Tree of Life:

 Yamas: The yamas are ethical principles that guide our interactions with others and with the world around us. They can be seen as the roots of the Tree of Life, which provide a foundation for our spiritual practice.

Ahimsa: Non-violence

Satya: Truthfulness

Asteya: Non-stealing

- o Brahmacharya: Celibacy or sexual restraint
- Aparigraha: Non-possessiveness
- Niyamas: The niyamas are observances that help us to cultivate a more
 positive and healthy attitude towards ourselves and the world around us.
 They can be seen as the trunk of the Tree of Life, which supports our
 spiritual growth.

Saucha: Purity

Santosha: Contentment

o Tapas: Self-discipline

Svadhyaya: Self-study

Ishvara Pranidhana: Surrender to God

- **Asana:** Asana is the physical practice of yoga. It can be seen as the branches of the Tree of Life, which reach up to the heavens. Asana helps us to connect with our bodies and to cultivate physical and mental strength.
- Pranayama: Pranayama is the practice of breath control. It can be seen as
 the leaves of the Tree of Life, which provide us with nourishment and
 support. Pranayama helps us to regulate our breath and to cultivate
 mental clarity and focus.
- **Pratyahara:** Pratyahara is the practice of withdrawing the senses from the external world. It can be seen as the flowers of the Tree of Life, which bloom with beauty and fragrance. Pratyahara helps us to focus our attention inward and to cultivate inner peace.
- **Dharana:** Dharana is the practice of concentration. It can be seen as the fruit of the Tree of Life, which is sweet and nourishing. Dharana helps us to focus our attention on a single point and to cultivate mental stability.
- **Dhyana:** Dhyana is the practice of meditation. It can be seen as the seed of the Tree of Life, which contains the potential for new growth. Dhyana helps us to still our minds and to experience union with the divine.
- **Samadhi:** Samadhi is the state of ultimate union with the divine. It can be seen as the blossom of the Tree of Life, which is the culmination of our spiritual journey. Samadhi is a state of perfect peace and awareness, in which we experience our true nature as one with the universe.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that can help us to understand the 8 limbs of yoga and to embark on our own journey of spiritual evolution.



The history of the tree of life

The Tree of Life is a symbol that has been used in many different cultures and spiritual traditions throughout history. It is often depicted as a tree with its roots in the earth and its branches reaching up to the heavens. The roots represent the physical world, while the branches represent the spiritual world. The trunk of the tree represents the human being, who is the bridge between the two worlds.

The history of the Tree of Life is a long and complex one. It can be traced back to ancient Mesopotamia, where it was depicted as a sacred tree of life. The tree was said to provide food, water, and shelter to all who came to it. It was also seen as a symbol of fertility and abundance.

The Tree of Life also played an important role in ancient Egyptian mythology. In the Egyptian Book of the Dead, the Tree of Life is depicted as a symbol of resurrection and eternal life. The tree was said to grow in the Field of Reeds, which was the afterlife paradise. Those who were worthy were said to be able to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Life and live forever.

The Tree of Life also appears in the Hebrew Bible. In the Book of Genesis, the Tree of Life is one of two trees that grow in the Garden of Eden. The other tree is the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam and Eve were forbidden to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, but they were allowed to eat from the Tree of Life.

In the Kabbalah, the Tree of Life is a central symbol. It is seen as a map of the universe and the human soul. The Tree of Life is divided into ten spheres, or sephirot, which represent different aspects of reality. The sephirot are often depicted as a tree with its roots in the divine realm and its branches reaching down to the material world.

The Tree of Life has also been used in other spiritual traditions, such as Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism. In each tradition, the Tree of Life is seen as a symbol of the interconnectedness of all things and the potential for spiritual growth.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that has been used by people of all cultures and spiritual traditions throughout history. It is a reminder of our connection to the divine and our potential for spiritual growth.

Here are some of the key points in the history of the Tree of Life:

- Ancient Mesopotamia: The Tree of Life was first depicted in ancient
 Mesopotamia, where it was seen as a sacred tree that provided food,
 water, and shelter.
- **Ancient Egypt:** The Tree of Life also played an important role in ancient Egyptian mythology, where it was seen as a symbol of resurrection and eternal life.
- **Hebrew Bible:** The Tree of Life appears in the Hebrew Bible, where it is one of two trees that grow in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were forbidden to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, but they were allowed to eat from the Tree of Life.
- **Kabbalah:** The Tree of Life is a central symbol in the Kabbalah, where it is seen as a map of the universe and the human soul.
- Other spiritual traditions: The Tree of Life has also been used in other spiritual traditions, such as Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol that has been used by people of all cultures and spiritual traditions throughout history. It is a reminder of our connection to the divine and our potential for spiritual growth.



Here are 10 yoga affirmations for the Tree of Life:

- 1. I am rooted in the earth and connected to the divine.
- 2. I am strong and stable, like the trunk of a tree.
- 3. I am open and receptive to new growth, like the branches of a tree.
- 4. I am full of life and potential, like the leaves of a tree.
- 5. I am beautiful and unique, like a flower on a tree.
- 6. I am full of peace and tranquility, like a seed in the ground.
- 7. I am growing and evolving, like a tree in the wind.

- 8. I am connected to all of creation, like the roots of a tree.
- 9. I am a source of strength and nourishment for others, like a tree in the forest.
- 10. I am grateful for the gift of life, like a tree in the sun.

You can repeat these affirmations to yourself during your yoga practice or at any time you feel the need to connect with your inner strength and resilience. The Tree of Life is a powerful symbol of the interconnectedness of all things and the potential for spiritual growth. These affirmations can help you to tap into that potential and live a more balanced and harmonious life.

Here are some additional tips for using yoga affirmations:

- Choose affirmations that resonate with you and that you believe in.
- Repeat the affirmations aloud or silently, whichever feels more comfortable to you.
- Focus on the meaning of the affirmations and allow them to sink into your subconscious mind.
- Practice the affirmations regularly, ideally for at least 10 minutes a day.
- Be patient and persistent. It may take some time to see results, but with regular practice, you will start to notice a difference in your thoughts, feelings, and actions.

Here are 10 mantras associated with the Tree of Life:

- 1. **Aum:** The most sacred mantra in Hinduism, Aum is said to represent the totality of creation. It is often used to start and end yoga practices.
- 2. **Eternal Tree:** This mantra is used to connect with the eternal nature of the Tree of Life. It is said to help us to access our inner wisdom and guidance.

- 3. **Tree of Life:** This mantra is simply a declaration of the power and beauty of the Tree of Life. It can be used to focus our attention on the tree and to appreciate its many gifts.
- 4. **Roots of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the grounding and stabilizing energy of the Tree of Life. It can be used to help us to feel more centered and balanced.
- 5. **Trunk of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the strength and resilience of the Tree of Life. It can be used to help us to overcome challenges and to persevere in the face of adversity.
- 6. **Branches of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the expansiveness and creativity of the Tree of Life. It can be used to help us to grow and evolve in our personal and spiritual lives.
- 7. **Leaves of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the abundance and nourishment of the Tree of Life. It can be used to help us to feel more fulfilled and content in our lives.
- 8. **Flowers of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the beauty and joy of the Tree of Life. It can be used to help us to appreciate the simple things in life and to find happiness in the present moment.
- 9. **Fruit of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the potential for spiritual growth and enlightenment. It can be used to help us to reach our full potential and to live a more meaningful life.
- 10. **Seed of the Tree of Life:** This mantra is used to connect with the power of new beginnings. It can be used to help us to let go of the past and to embrace the future with hope and optimism.

These are just a few examples of mantras that can be associated with the Tree of Life. There are many other mantras that can be used, and the best mantra for you will depend on your personal preferences and spiritual beliefs. You can also experiment with different mantras to see which ones resonate with you the most.

When using mantras, it is important to focus on the meaning of the words and to allow them to sink into your subconscious mind. You can chant the mantras aloud or silently, whichever feels more comfortable to you. It is also important to practice

the mantras regularly, ideally for at least 10 minutes a day. With regular practice, you will start to notice a difference in your thoughts, feelings, and actions.



Here are 4 Pranayama exercises associated with the Tree of Life:

• **Ujjayi Pranayama:** This is a forceful breath that can be used to connect with the strength and power of the Tree of Life. To practice Ujjayi Pranayama, inhale and exhale through your nose with a slight constriction of the throat. This will create a humming sound, which is why Ujjayi

Pranayama is also known as the "victorious breath." <u>workoutlabs.com</u> Ujjayi Pranayama yoga pose



https://www.yogabasics.com/practice/ujjayi-pranayama/

• Nadishodhana Pranayama: This is a alternate nostril breathing exercise that can be used to connect with the balance and harmony of the Tree of Life. To practice Nadishodhana Pranayama, sit in a comfortable position with your spine straight. Close your right nostril with your right thumb and inhale through your left nostril. Hold your breath for a few seconds, then close your left nostril with your ring finger and exhale through your right nostril. Continue to inhale through your left nostril and exhale through your right nostril for 5-10 rounds. workoutlabs.com Nadishodhana Pranayama yoga pose

Nadi Shodhana Pranayama: Alternate Nostril Breathing | SRMD Yo...



• **Kapalbhati Pranayama:** This is a cleansing breath that can be used to connect with the purification and renewal of the Tree of Life. To practice Kapalbhati Pranayama, sit in a comfortable position with your spine straight. Inhale deeply through your nose, then exhale forcefully through your nose with a sharp, contracting sound. Continue to exhale in this way for 10-15 rounds. www.anantyoga.com Kapalbhati Pranayama yoga pose



• **Bhramari Pranayama:** This is a buzzing breath that can be used to connect with the calmness and serenity of the Tree of Life. To practice Bhramari Pranayama, sit in a comfortable position with your spine straight. Close your eyes and place your index fingers on your ears, just above your earlobes. Inhale deeply through your nose, then exhale slowly

while making a buzzing sound with your vocal cords. Continue to exhale in this way for 5-10 rounds. yog4lyf.com Bhramari Pranayama yoga pose



These are just a few examples of Pranayama exercises that can be associated with the Tree of Life. There are many other Pranayama exercises that can be used, and the best exercise for you will depend on your personal preferences and spiritual beliefs. You can also experiment with different Pranayama exercises to see which ones resonate with you the most.

When practicing Pranayama, it is important to sit in a comfortable position with your spine straight. You should also focus on your breath and allow it to flow naturally. It is important to practice Pranayama regularly, ideally for at least 10 minutes a day. With regular practice, you will start to notice a difference in your mental and physical well-being.

Pre-Caution

While engaging in any **yoga activities, always remember**:

- Listen to your body. Don't push yourself too hard, and be sure to modify poses as needed.
- Use props to help you. Props can be a great way to make poses more
 accessible and to reduce the risk of injury.
- **Take breaks.** If you're feeling tired or sore, take a break from your practice.

• **Don't be afraid to ask for help.** If you're not sure how to modify a pose or if you have any concerns, ask your instructor for help.

Always listen to your body and modify poses as needed. Also review on our **website**, our guidance on using Yoga for mental health purposes.

Resources

BODY SCAN MEDITATION

1

Sit in a comfortable chair in a dimly lit room.

2

Imagine the outline of your body and slowly trace it in your head.

3

Observe the amount of pressure you're feeling against the chair.

4

Where there is more pressure and where there is less. Be mindful.

5

Start with your head. Work down to your feet. Then back up the other side of your body.

6

Take about five minutes for this exercise.

PTSD resources

- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. This is a free and confidential service that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
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- The National Center for PTSD: https://www.ptsd.va.gov/
- The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN): https://www.rainn.org/
- The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI): https://www.nami.org/
- The American Psychological Association: https://www.apa.org/
- Prison Yoga Project 200hr Yoga Teachgers
 Training: https://community.prisonyoga.org/courses/yoga-social-justice-and-leadership-a-200-hour-yoga-teacher-training/
- In The Rooms (web based 12-STEP rooms)
 https://www.intherooms.com/home/
- National Institute of Mental Health:
 https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/attention-deficit hyperactivity-disorder-adhd/index.shtml
- Attention Deficit Disorder Association: https://add.org/
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: https://www.aacap.org/
- StopBullying.gov: https://www.stopbullying.gov/
- The National Bullying Prevention Center: https://www.pacer.org/bullying/
- The Trevor Project: https://www.thetrevorproject.org/
- The National Institute of Mental Health:
 https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/attention-deficit-hyperactivity-disorder-adhd/index.shtml
- The National Autism Association: https://www.autismspeaks.org/
- The Learning Disabilities Association of America: https://ldaamerica.org/

You can also find a therapist in your area by visiting the Psychology Today therapist directory: https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists

Sign up for our newsletter: http://eepurl.com/hQlzgL

Dharma Seeds Press bookstore: https://www.lulu.com/spotlight/dharma-seeds-yoga-press/

Deva's BoHo Shoppe

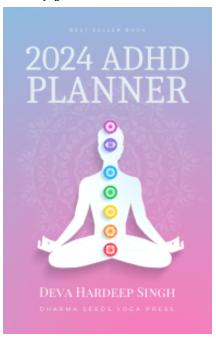
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For more information on our Engage Mindfulness™ please email: dharmaseedsyoga@gmail.com



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The Dharma Seeds Yoga Press 2024 ADHD Mindfulness Planner is a comprehensive resource for people with ADHD who are looking to improve their mindfulness skills. The planner includes a variety of activities and exercises, such as mindful breathing, body scans, and journaling prompts. It also includes space to track your progress and to set goals.

The planner is designed to be accessible and user-friendly. The activities are written in a clear and concise way, and the planner includes plenty of space to write down your thoughts and feelings. The planner is also visually appealing, with calming illustrations and a soothing color scheme.

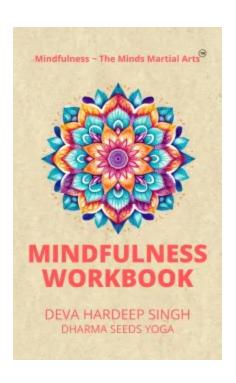
The Dharma Seeds Yoga Press 2024 ADHD Mindfulness Planner is a valuable tool for anyone who wants to improve their mindfulness skills. It is a helpful resource for people with ADHD who are looking to manage their symptoms, improve their focus, and reduce stress.

Here are some of the features of the Dharma Seeds Yoga Press 2024 ADHD Mindfulness Planner: ·

- Mindfulness activities and exercises: The planner includes a variety of mindfulness activities and exercises, such as mindful breathing, body scans, and journaling prompts. These activities are designed to help you develop your mindfulness skills and to improve your overall well-being.
- Goal-setting: The planner includes space to set goals for yourself. This can help you to stay motivated and to track your progress over time.
- Progress tracking: The planner includes space to track your progress on your mindfulness journey. This can help you to see how far you have come and to identify areas where you need to improve.
- Calming illustrations: The planner includes calming illustrations that can help you to relax and to focus. Soothing color scheme: The planner has a soothing color scheme that can help you to feel calm and relaxed.

If you are looking for a comprehensive and user-friendly mindfulness planner, the Dharma Seeds Yoga Press 2024 ADHD Mindfulness Planner is a great option. It is a valuable resource for anyone who wants to improve their mindfulness skills and to manage their ADHD symptoms.

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NOW FOR SALE

Mindfulness is the practice of paying attention to the present moment, without judgment. It is a way of training the mind to focus and to be aware of our thoughts, feelings, and sensations. Meditation is a form of mindfulness that involves sitting quietly and focusing on the breath.

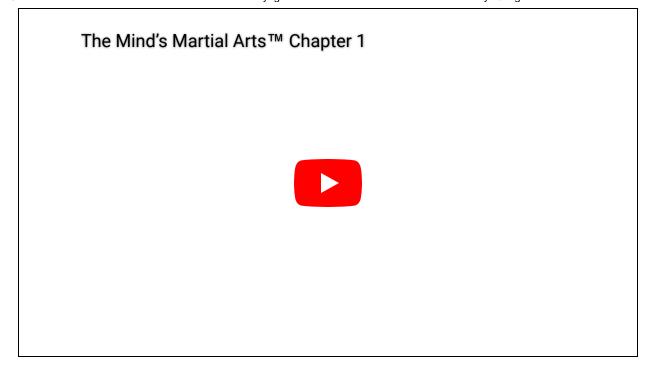
The Mind's Martial Arts is a mindfulness workbook that can help you to learn the basics of mindfulness and meditation. The workbook is divided into three sections:

- The first section introduces the basics of mindfulness, such as what mindfulness is, why it is beneficial, and how to get started.
- The second section provides a variety of mindfulness exercises, including guided meditations, breathing exercises, and body scans.
- The third section provides tips for integrating mindfulness into your daily life.

The Mind's Martial Arts is a comprehensive and easy-to-follow guide to mindfulness. It is a great resource for anyone who is interested in learning how to be more mindful.

Mindfulness is a skill that can be learned and practiced.

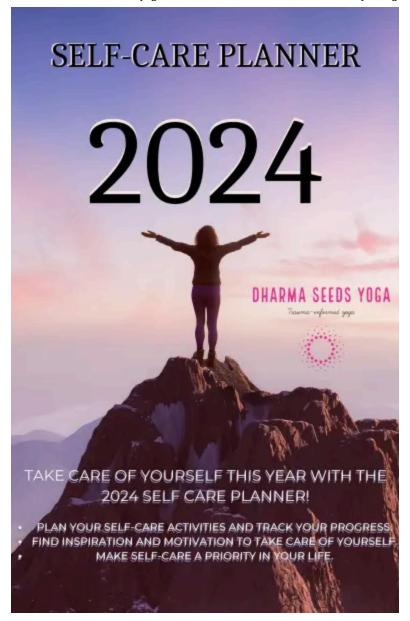
Mindfulness is a powerful tool that can help you to live a happier, healthier, and more fulfilling life. With regular practice, you can learn to control your thoughts and emotions, improve your focus, and increase your happiness.



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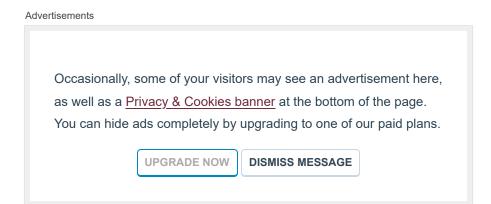


Mar 2023 at families 100+year Indigenous homestead.

Deva Hardeep Singh (he/him; neurodivergent, gay, ability injured, post-traumatic stress injury, borderline personality injury) is an Oklahoman, a Yuchi Indian, enrolled in the Muscogee Nation, and studied radio/TV/film in college. He's worked as an on-air personality, author, poet, artist, administrative assistant, petroleum landman, barista, staff writer, paralegal, concert promoter, music artist manager, content producer, and graphic designer. He spent 6 months as a National Data Team volunteer for the Bernie Sanders for President campaign. He is a freelance journalist with International papers and magazines with a social justice focus. Recently was able to join the Hulu/FX Series Reservation Dogs, as an extra (Seasons 2 & 3) He's been a meditator for over 30 years (Buddhist, Chan, Zen), teaches meditation, and provides yoga instruction, and a Reiki III Master.



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